

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9175

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4802

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6765

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR

SUBJECT: NAC MINISTERIAL: RESTRICTED SESSION

REF: USNATO 6727

1. DURING INFORMAL MEETING WITH DCM MORNING DECEMBER 4, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL PANSO AND CHEF DU CABINET VAN CAMPEN AGREED IN VIEW OF "INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION" AT DECEMBER 3 PERMREPS LUNCH: 1) RESTRICTED NAC SESSION WILL BE HELD ON MORNING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 IN CONFERENCE ROOM ONE IMMEDIATELY AFTER CEREMONIAL OPENING SESSION IN CONFERENCE ROOM 16; AND 2) SYG WILL CONFER WITH SEVERAL FOREIGN MINISTERS (INCLUDING EXPLICITLY SECRETARY KISSINGER) BEFORE STATING NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO MAY ATTEND NAC RESTRICTED SESSION, ALTHOUGH LUNS HAS IMPRESSION THAT MANY ALLIES FAVOR MINISTERS (GENSCHER AND LEBER IN FRG CASE) PLUS PERMREP, PLUS TWO SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO PANSO AND VAN CAMPEN, ITALIANS ARE INSISTING THAT THEY MUST BRING BOTH GAJA AND DUCCI TO NAC RESTRICTED SESSION.

2. DCM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SYG'S WILLINGNESS TO MOVE RESTRICTED SESSION BACK TO FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 12.  
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HE CONTENDED STRONGLY AND AT LENGTH AGAINST ALLIED ATTEMPTS CONSTANTLY TO EXPAND ATTENDANCE SINCE IT INCREASED THE VERY REAL RISK OF LEAKS ON SENSITIVE SUBJECTS NOW UNDER NEGOTIATION; IT INHIBITED CERTAIN FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM SPEAKING THEIR MINDS;

AND IT SERVED TO DEPRECIATE THE VALUE AND SUBSTANCE OF MUTUAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG ALLIES. AGAIN AND AGAIN THE ALLIES -- ESPECIALLY THE SMALLER ONES -- PLEADED WITH THE U.S. FOR MUTUAL CONSULTATIONS AT A HIGH LEVEL ON SUCH SENSITIVE THEMES AS SALT, US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND THE MIDDLE EAST. YET NOW WHEN ALLIED FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONFER WITH EACH OTHER WITH SOME DEGREE OF PRIVACY, CERTAIN ALLIES ARE INSISTING ON CONDITIONS THAT COULD MAKE THE CONSULTATIONS NEXT TO WORTHLESS. VAN CAMPEN EXPRESSED WHOLEHEARTED AGREEMENT AND SAID HE FELT CERTAIN LUNS WOULD DO HIS BEST TO RESTRICT ATTENDANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECRETARY'S WISHES.

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